

Please amend the application filed on even date herewith prior to proceeding with its examination.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (New) A method for the prevention or treatment of oral cavity aphthas comprising administering, as the sole active ingredient, hyaluronic acid, having an average molecular weight comprised between 800,000 and 4,000,000, to a subject in need thereof.

8. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hyaluronic acid is administered in the form of a sodium salt.

9. (New) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said hyaluronic acid sodium salt is topically administered.

10. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein said hyaluronic acid is administered in the form of topical compositions containing sodium hyaluronate in concentrations between 0.01 and 10% by weight on the total weight of the composition.

11. (New) The method according to claim 4, wherein the concentration of sodium hyaluronate is between 0.01 and 5% by weight on the total weight of the composition.

12. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said average molecular weight of hyaluronic acid is between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000.